<u>**AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS**</u>

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

<u>**Listing of Claims:**</u>

1. (Currently Amended) A method for indexing voice mail messages, comprising:

receiving one or more voice mail messages from one or more callers;

determining an identity of each of the one or more callers in each of the one or more voice mail messages (1) by comparing speech signals from each of the one or more voice mail messages with one or more caller speaker models and (2) based on an analysis of the content of each of the one or more voice mail messages;

tagging each of the one or more voice mail messages with the respective determined identity and <u>a matching score</u> ~~an indication of certainty~~ of the respective determined identity of the caller for each respective voice mail message; and

when the determined identity of the caller of a voice mail message cannot be determined to a threshold certainty:

tagging the voice mail message from the caller as unknown;

receiving an indicated identity of the caller from a voice mail subscriber; [[and]]

<u>if the received indicated identity does not match any known identities,</u> creating a storage folder for voice mail messages from the caller corresponding to the received indicated identity<u>; and</u>

<u>if the received indicated identity matches a known identity, modifying the known identity based on the received indicated identity</u>.

2-3.   (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more caller speaker

models are created from one or more voice mail messages left by a same caller.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more speaker models are

created using acoustic features extracted from the voice mail message, the acoustic features

extracted using speaker recognition techniques.

6-7.   (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) A method for indexing voice mail messages, comprising:

      receiving one or more voice mail messages from one or more callers;

      determining an identity of each of the one or more callers in each of the one or more

voice mail messages (1) by comparing speech signals from each of the one or more voice mail

messages with one or more caller speaker models and (2) based on an analysis of the content of

each of the one or more voice mail messages;

      tagging each of the one or more voice mail messages with the respective determined

identity and a matching score ~~an indication of certainty~~ of the respective determined identity of

the caller for each respective voice mail message; and

      when the determined identity of the caller of a voice mail message cannot be determined

      to a threshold certainty:

            tagging that voice mail message as unknown; and

            receiving an indicated identity of the caller from a voice mail subscriber, wherein

      if the voice mail message is tagged as unknown, receiving further comprises creating a

storage folder for voice mail messages from the caller corresponding to the received

caller identity, and if the received indicated identity matches a previously created speaker

model, receiving further comprises adapting the ~~is used to adapt a~~ previously created

speaker model.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining the identity

of each of the one or more callers in each of the one or more voice mail messages includes the

substep of:

       using automatic number identification to assist in determining the caller's identity.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining the identity

of each of the one or more callers includes the substep of:

       using speech recognition techniques to extract caller identity information from the one or

more voice mail messages.

11-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) A system for processing voice mail messages, the system

comprising:

       means for receiving one or more voice mail messages;

       means for determining an identity of a speaker of each of the one or more voice mail

messages (1) by comparing speech signals from each of the voice mail messages with a group of

speaker models and (2) based on an analysis of the content of each of the one or more voice mail

messages;

means for tagging each of the one or more voice mail messages with the respective

determined identity and a matching score ~~an indication of certainty~~ of the respective determined

identity of the speaker for each respective voice mail message; and

means for, when the determined identity of the speaker of a voice mail message cannot be

determined to a threshold certainty, tagging the voice mail message as unknown, receiving an

indicated identity of the speaker from a voice mail subscriber and creating a storage folder for

voice mail messages from the speaker corresponding to the received indicated identity.

25. – 26. (Cancelled)

27. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 24, wherein the speaker models are created

from one or more voice mail messages left by a same caller.

28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 24, wherein the speaker models are created

using acoustic features extracted from the one or more voice mail messages, the acoustic features

extracted using speaker recognition techniques.

29. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 24, wherein the voice mail message tagged as

unknown is used to adapt a previously created speaker model.

30. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 24, wherein the means for determining an

identity of a speaker of each of the one or more voice mail messages further comprises means for

using automatic number identification to assist in determining the identity of the speaker.

31. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 24, wherein the means for determining an

identity of a speaker of each of the one or more voice mail messages further comprises means for

using speech recognition techniques to extract caller identity information from each one of the

one or more voice mail messages.